

NEW BASIS FOR PEACE BY HUNGARIAN POWERS REPORTED; FRANCO-AMERICANS CRUSHING ENEMY DEFENSES

MAXIMILIAN PROPOSES GENERAL SUSPENSION OF HOSTILITIES, SAY ADVICES

Asks Allied Terms—Ready to Accept Wilson Principles, Declares One Dispatch.

BERLIN'S ALLIES IN ACCORD; AUSTRIA APPROACHES U. S.

LONDON, October 5.—Prince Maximilian, the imperial German chancellor, in the Reichstag today emphatically declared that the new government stood on the basis of a just peace, regardless of the war situation.

A powerful movement apparently is under way in Germany for a general armistice and peace. The new German chancellor, Prince Maximilian of Baden, is reported to have proposed or to be on the eve of proposing a general suspension of hostilities, the appointment of plenipotentiaries to meet at a neutral place for the discussion of a league for arbitration and disarmament and the forwarding of a request to the entente allies for their terms. It is furthermore reported that the German chancellor has expressed his willingness to accept President Wilson's fourteen peace conditions.

Austria-Hungary, through its minister at Stockholm, is requesting the Swedish government, according to advices from Bern, to transmit to President Wilson a proposal for a general armistice with the entente allies on land and sea and in the air and start without delay negotiations for peace. These negotiations are to be based on the terms set forth by President Wilson.

A new peace note to be issued by Baron Burián, the Austro-Hungarian foreign minister, it is announced, will declare that all of President Wilson's terms have been accepted by the dual monarchy.

And, finally, from Bern comes the announcement that Germany, Austria-Hungary and Turkey intend simultaneously to approach President Wilson with the object of having him make representations to the other entente allies for a general armistice and negotiations looking to peace.

Would End Fighting at Once and Discuss War Issues

AMSTERDAM, October 5.—The immediate suspension of hostilities has been proposed by the imperial German chancellor, Prince Maximilian, in the Reichstag, according to the Berlin correspondent of the Tijd. The entente allies are to be asked to state their terms.

The chancellor's proposal embraced also the dispatch of plenipotentiaries to a neutral place to discuss the question of a league for national arbitration and disarmament.

The plenipotentiaries are further to be empowered to discuss the creation of a federal Austria, the right of self-determination for the Russian frontier states, the restoration and indemnification of Belgium, and the return of the German colonies.

The terms of the entente allies will be asked at the same time with the proposal of forming a basis for the consideration of these important questions.

STOCKHOLM, October 5. (By the Associated Press).—Prince Maximilian of Baden, the new imperial German chancellor, is willing to accept President Wilson's fourteen peace conditions, according to reports received from Berlin by circles closely connected with the foreign office here, even though this for many reasons may not be thoroughly demonstrated in his statement before the Reichstag.

The imperial chancellor, Prince Maximilian, certainly will make an important announcement in the Reichstag, which has assembled four days in advance of the regular time.

The action of the Austrian government has been preceded by a number of conferences with representatives of the American government had made it clear that it had already produced remarkable phenomena and would do so still more in the near future. Rumors have been prevalent in Vienna political circles that the foreign minister would send a second note to the belligerents, which would contain more pre-

HUN PEACE PLEAS WILL NOT CHANGE ATTITUDE OF U. S.

Reply Made When Unbinding
Discussion Was Suggested
Still Applies.

NO OFFICIAL NOTICE OF PROPOSAL RECEIVED HERE

An Austrian appeal for an armistice for discussion of peace on President Wilson's own terms is regarded here as the logical sequel of the President's recent summary rejection of the proposal that hostilities be suspended for secret and non-binding peace discussions.

What the American government's attitude to such an appeal would be is indicated by the statement authorized when the Austro-Hungarian foreign minister complained that his acceptance of President Wilson's principles had not been noticed—that peace could not be talked of upon any terms so long as Germany and Austria were in possession of a single foot of conquered territory.

Lacks Official Confirmation.

The statement was authorized, officially late last night, that the American government had received no official information whatever concerning new developments reported to be impending in the Teutonic campaign for peace by negotiation. Now and more aggressive phases of the Teutonic effort for peace by negotiation before allied and American troops invade German soil evidently are about to be launched, and the only question is the exact form they will take. Officially, the United States neither by the Austrian armistice plea, which Bern press dispatches said that the new German chancellor, Prince Maximilian of Baden, said to have proposed or to be about to propose in the Reichstag.

There is a disposition to believe, however, that an early end of the war is in sight, in spite of the fact that the Germans are known to be desperately anxious to halt by diplomacy the steady advance of their enemies toward the German border.

Expected to Keep It Up.

Proposals will continue to come through, and there is no doubt here that sooner or later, as the great task of driving the Germans out of Belgium and France progresses, the Teutonic alliance will crumble and seek such terms as were given Bulgaria. In the meantime, the offer and suggestion is regarded as nothing more than a continuation of the long-winded peace offensive, for the reorganization of the German cabinet is not regarded as indicating any real change of heart in Berlin or as making the actual masters of Germany any more worthy of trust.

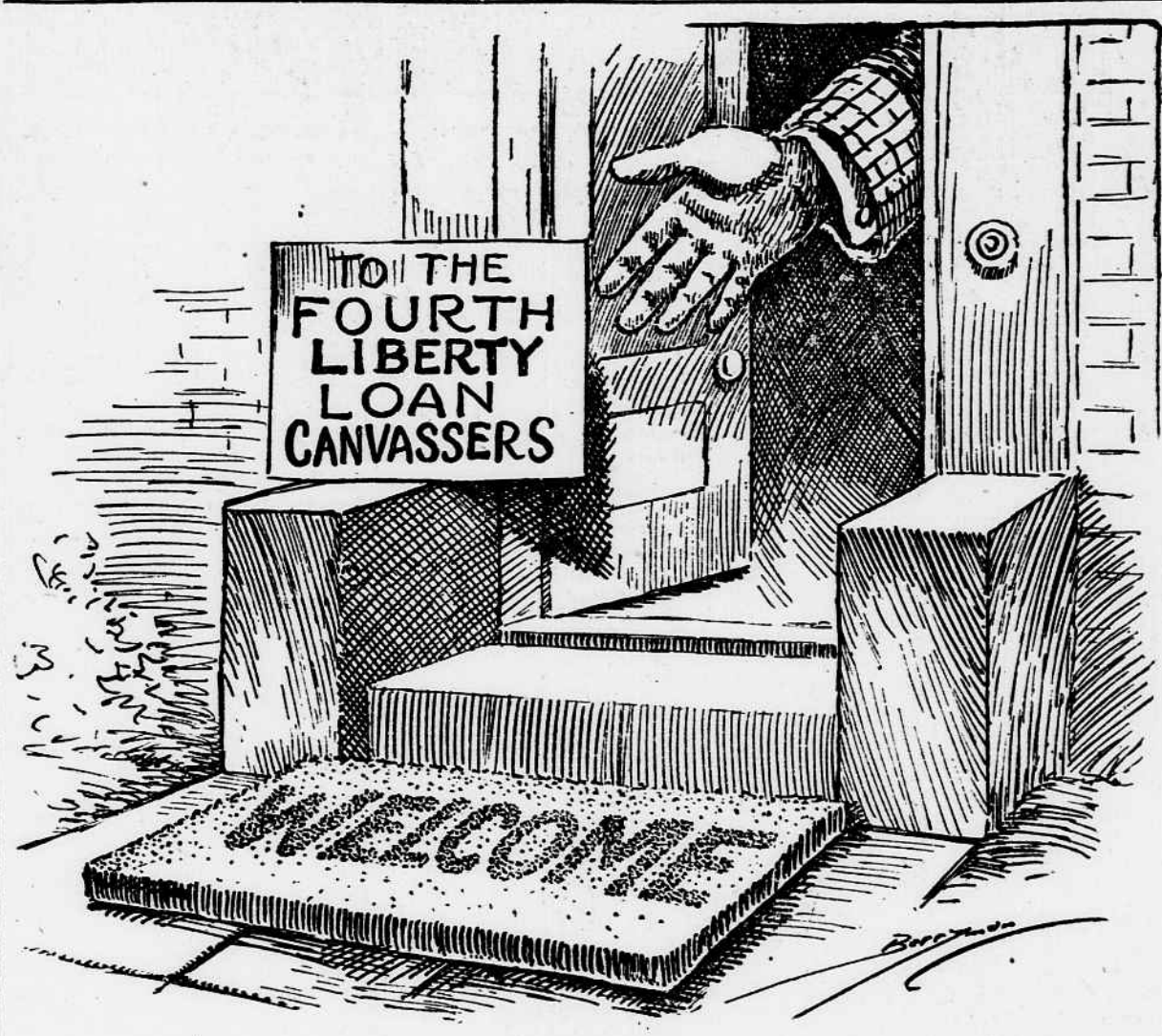
Principals in the peace negotiations, leading through various shades of arrogance and concessions down to von Hertling, could not humble themselves to the point of dealing with the enemy on the basis of confessed defeat for the German arms. In the official view, the federalization of Austria, the right of self-determination of the Russian frontier states, and the restoration and indemnification of Belgium, are not regarded as anything more than a continuation of the long-winded peace offensive, for the reorganization of the German cabinet is not regarded as indicating any real change of heart in Berlin or as making the actual masters of Germany any more worthy of trust.

The proposal to send plenipotentiaries to a neutral place to discuss the question of a league for national arbitration and disarmament is regarded as a transparent effort to delay the war, and probably would not be entertained for a moment for that reason. The same objection lies against discussion of the federalization of Austria, the right of self-determination of the Russian frontier states, and the restoration and indemnification of Belgium, are not regarded as anything more than a continuation of the long-winded peace offensive, for the reorganization of the German cabinet is not regarded as indicating any real change of heart in Berlin or as making the actual masters of Germany any more worthy of trust.

Rejection by Mr. Wilson. On September 14 the Austro-Hungarian government invited all the belligerent governments to enter into non-binding discussions at some neutral meeting place, with a view to bringing about peace.

Two days later President Wilson rejected the proposal, declaring that the American government had made its position and purpose so plain, having repeatedly stated the terms upon which peace would be considered, and that it would entertain no proposal for such a conference.

Baron Burián, the Austro-Hungarian foreign minister, in announcing that he was not surprised at the rejection of his peace note, declared that it had already produced remarkable phenomena and would do so still more in the near future. Rumors have been prevalent in Vienna political circles that the foreign minister would send a second note to the belligerents, which would contain more pre-



ARMY OFFICERS START PROBE OF T. N. T. EXPLOSION

Situation at Morgan, N. J.,
Under Control and Further
Danger Believed Past.

PERTH AMBOY, N. J., October 5.—Army officers investigating the explosion which wrecked the great shell-loading plant of the T. A. Gillespie Company, at Morgan, estimated tonight that the dead would number not more than fifty and the injured 150. The property loss probably will approximate between \$15,000,000 and \$20,000,000.

Late tonight the flames appeared to be under control, and it was believed danger of greater devastation by the blowing up of stores of trinitrotoluol was virtually over. All that is left unexploded is buried in underground caissons along the bank of Cheesecake creek, upon which the plant is located, or is loaded on four barges tied up at the company docks along that stream.

Gen. Williams to Investigate.

Major Gen. C. C. Williams, chief of ordnance of the United States Army, arrived here tonight to conduct a rigid investigation into the explosion and fire. Gen. Williams was accompanied by Capt. Wilson, also of the ordnance department, and Lieut. De Nulzie, a French ordnance expert. Upon their arrival they went into conference with the Army officers already here.

Relief Stations for Thousands.

The Red Cross has established relief stations for the thousands of refugees and has the situation well in hand. Another station has been opened in South Amboy. Albert W. Straub, assistant director of the Atlantic division, arrived tonight with \$10,000 in cash to be used in relief work.

Soldier guards, with fixed bayonets and with loaded rifles, patrolled the deserted streets, with strict orders to prevent looting or disorder of any kind.

Inspect From Airplane.

Army officers reported after a reconnaissance by airplane that the location of the boats and storehouses is such that they believed there was slight probability it would be exploded either by fire or concussion.

With the passing of the menace of an explosion around the plant the problem of caring for the homeless became the most serious tonight.

South Amboy, a town of about 10,000 population four miles north of Morgan, was virtually wrecked by the explosion. Scarcely a building in it remains habitable. Many were unroofed and the walls of others blown in, while every pane of glass was broken.

Relief for Wrecked City.

The Atlantic division of the Red Cross established headquarters at Perth Amboy this afternoon. Fifty ambulances from New York and Newark, with corps of doctors and nurses, arrived to take charge of the situation. Eight central depots were opened in churches, schools and other public buildings. Commandeered automobiles and cars driven by members of the women's motor corps from New York and New Jersey were sent out to pick up fleeing refugees and bring them back to the depots for shelter. The Red Cross brought in from New

WILL MAKE LOAN CANVASS QUIETLY

3,500 Man and Woman Vol-
unteers Will Call at Homes
This Afternoon.

200 DISTRICTS IN CITY

DETAILS OF CANVASS.

Canvass begins promptly at 1 o'clock. Every home in Washington will be visited. Have your 10 per cent cash payment (or check) ready for canvassers. Put your honor flag in your window and wear your button. Make your subscription as large as you possibly can. Remember, our boys are giving their lives for us; they are only asking to lend your money. Liberty Loan Committee of D. C.

Everything is in readiness for the great house-to-house canvass which will start at 1 o'clock this afternoon. The Liberty Loan Committee will be in the city for the next few days. The stage is well set for this canvass of the homes of Washington. It will be in marked contrast with the other great liberty loan demonstrations which have been held here.

There will be no music or parading, no oratory or flag waving or ringing of bells. In fact, there will be absolutely no effort toward the spectacular.

It will be a dignified procedure. Throughout the city more than 3,500 men and women volunteers will be seriously engaged in a patriotic endeavor to raise Washington's fourth liberty loan quota of \$27,500,000.

All Will Get Chance.

Simultaneously 3,500 door bells of homes in all sections of the city will be rung at 1 o'clock this afternoon, thus starting the big undertaking on its way. These 3,500 patriots will continue at their task until the last house in Washington has been visited.

Every resident of Washington, whether permanent or temporary, will be given an opportunity to enter his or her pledge this afternoon for a fourth liberty loan, and thereby have his or her name placed on the roll of honor of the greatest and most tremendous loan ever floated by this or any other nation. The city has been divided into 200 districts and each district will be solicited by a team of twenty or more persons. Included among the 200 team captains and the 3,500 volunteer workers are men and women high in official, business and professional life in the capital.

Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo himself will be one of the canvassers. He enthusiastically announced yesterday that he would be one of the canvassers, and that he wanted to see his home town upon the roll of honor of the greatest and most tremendous loan ever floated by this or any other nation.

Many Professions Represented. Among the volunteer canvassers there also will be bank presidents, prominent business men, lawyers, doctors, insurance, government workers, and prominent representatives of organized labor, merchants, mechanics, and, in fact, representatives of every class of men and women, all engaged in an earnest effort to make possible the successful carrying out of the house selling plan which was decided upon by the local committee when the spread of influenza made it necessary to abandon all rallies and indoor meetings and gatherings.

The Liberty Loan Committee forty-eight hours ago decided to abandon all other plans which it had taken months to prepare, and determined to place the problem squarely before the people of Washington for their serious and conscientious action.

The wisdom of this course, and the success of the plan already are assured. No stronger evidence of this is needed than yesterday's record of bond sales of any one of the forty-

THIRTY-ONE DIE FROM INFLUENZA HERE IN 11 HOURS

Majority of Fatalities Among
Workers Whose Homes
Are in States.

Thirty-one additional deaths from influenza, the heaviest toll recorded in the District in any one day since the appearance of the disease, were reported to the health department between noon yesterday and 11 o'clock last night.

This number, added to the twenty-seven fatalities recorded during the twenty-four-hour period ending at noon yesterday, gave a total of fifty-eight deaths registered in thirty-five hours.

Reports of the increasing fatality were received up to the closing of the vital statistics bureau of the health office, an hour before midnight. That other deaths occurred during the evening, which will not be reported before today is probable.

Mostly Under 30 Years of Age.

All but two of the latest victims were white persons, a majority of them war workers whose homes are in the States. Their ages are mostly under thirty years. The oldest persons to succumb are the two colored victims listed, who were fifty and sixty years old respectively.

George Washington University has closed its doors for the duration of the epidemic. Whether this action will be followed by other universities was not ascertained last night. Commissioner Brownlow and Health Officer Fowler kept in close touch with reports during the evening. Despite the widespread and exhaustive measures taken to check the spread of the disease, the outlook for an early abatement grows hourly more discouraging.

Deaths Reported Last Night.

The deaths reported last night follow: Ruth A. Lettie, 19, Providence Hospital; Stephen J. Feeley, 26, Walter Reed Hospital; Grace M. Goodhard, 25, 52 T street northwest; Saverio Ellyrio, 22, Georgetown University Hospital; Louis Faust, 25, Providence Hospital; Clarence E. Whitmore, 27, 918 10th street southeast; Jos. F. Bellak, 23, 2102 O street northwest; Myra Scott, 19, 1212 Delaware place northwest; Annie J. Perry, 25, Washington Hotel; William F. Norwood, 28, Walter Reed Hospital; Homer C. Dye, 22, Walter Reed Hospital; Alice M. Klock, 22, 3333 Georgia avenue northwest; Howard Siedle, 26, 1311 W street northwest; Milo A. Barnett, 26, Shibley Hospital; Jessie A. Robinson, 30, 2012 Franklin street northeast; Frank A. Thorne, 28, George Washington University Hospital; Floyd Bird, 21, Providence Hospital; Edmund C. Bowl, 31, 232 E street northeast; Marshall La Verne, 24, Emergency Hospital; Marion Snyder, 1 year, 624 M street southeast; Grace Osborn, 22, Emergency Hospital; Richard J. Barry, 25, 1527 Buchanan street northwest; Linda Purdy, 60, 467 Washington street northwest; Louis Bunch, 32, 935 Virginia avenue southwest; Edward E. Adams, 28, 442 Columbia road northwest; Madeline H. Driver, 20, 2018

(Continued on Sixth Page.)

Master List of Draft Numbers.

The official list of draft numbers as drawn September 12, and which apply to the District of Columbia, will be found on page 22.

SMASH ON BETWEEN RHEIMS AND MEUSE; FIGHTING IS BITTER

Huns Burn Villages in North Preparatory to Retreat to French Frontier.

BRITISH CONTINUE PRESSURE IN ST. QUENTIN SECTORS

PARIS, October 5.—Fort Brimont has been captured by the French troops, the war office announces tonight. The massif of Moronvilliers has been taken and the massif of Nogent l'Abbesse encircled.

WITH THE BRITISH ARMY IN FRANCE, October 5 (by the Associated Press).—Wide gains of great importance have been made today by the fighting British armies. In the north the line of the Haute Deule canal has been reached and the Germans are hurriedly evacuating Lille.

American and French troops are crushing in the southern wall of the German defenses with heavy blows along the front from west of Rheims to the Meuse.

In the north, under the menace of the British pressure from Flanders to north of St. Quentin the enemy has set fire to Douai and other towns and villages in that area, evidently in preparation for a retirement to the French frontier. Heavy explosions also have been heard.

With the French covering the western outlet of the Grand Pre gap through the Argonne forest, the Americans in an advance of three miles between the Meuse and the Aisne are rapidly closing up the eastern entrance to the pass. Gen. Pershing's men in smashing blows Saturday realized a considerable advance all along the front and took additional villages and heights from the Germans. The enemy resistance was most stubborn, as on this front the Germans are standing on the Kriemhild line, the last of their prepared defenses.

The Americans are advancing toward Sedan and the great communication line on which German security on the present front depends. This important railway is only eighteen miles from the American front.

On both sides of the Suippe the American and French troops, under Gen. Gouraud, rapidly are driving the Germans from the heights dominating the Champagne region east of Rheims. The Germans are retiring to the River Arne, but the Americans already have reached that stream at St. Etienne.

Northwest of Rheims the French have forced several crossings of the Aisne canal, endangering the German rear in Champagne. A German retirement on a considerable front to a depth of at least five miles in Champagne is not unlikely as a result of the successes of Gens. Gouraud and Berthelot.

From St. Quentin north to the Lys, on the front before the important bases of Cambrai, Douai and Lille, the British are exerting strong pressure. The Germans are endeavoring to hold on to their positions until the work of devastation in their rear is completed. North of St. Quentin the British have driven farther eastward the apex of the salient at Beaufort and Saturday captured 1,000 prisoners.

In Belgium the forces under King Albert maintain their pressure. Since September 28 the Belgians, French and British have advanced nine miles on a twenty-five-mile front and have taken 10,500 prisoners and 350 guns.

German Retreat Quickens Before Franco-Americans

PARIS, October 5.—The German retreat before Gouraud's army, which is supported by the Americans on the right, is quickening perceptibly. French troops reached Betheniville this afternoon, lying about three miles north of Moronvilliers. The statement reads: "Nineteen enemy machines were destroyed by our aviators and three balloons set on fire. Bombing aviators dropped during the day 1,500 kilograms of projectiles. Several thousand rounds were fired at enemy troops and more than five tons of bombs were dropped on them."

FRANCE HEADQUARTERS IN FRANCE, October 5, 5 a.m. (Reuter's).—In eastern Champagne the Germans are falling back on the line of the Arne river. This line has been reached by the American troops, who have taken St. Etienne-a-Arnes.

ROME, October 5.—Italian units in the aid of the French in the north of the Aisne, it was announced today, have overcome stubborn enemy resistance and captured important heights positions. They have taken prisoners and machine guns from the enemy.

PARIS, Friday, October 4.—In aerial operations today nineteen enemy machines were destroyed and three captive balloons set on fire. French bombing aviators were active in the region of Lens and in the valley of the Suippe and on the railway stations at Lons-sur-Meuse, Sur-Remou, Vouziers, Warmeriville, Maison Bleue and Marie.

Yankees Reach Last Defenses in Enemy's Brunhilde Line

The American forces are in contact with the last defenses of the Brunhilde line, represented by the woods between Briailles and the Meuse. The enemy is reported to have